

CLAIMS

1. Method of repairing defective areas in a stoving lacquer coating, characterised in that the defective area ready for repair lacquering is coated with a powder coating composition or with an aqueous powder coating slurry, and the applied powder coating is then melted and cured by irradiation with near infrared radiation (NIR).
2. Method according to claim 1, characterised in that it is carried out in order to repair defective areas within stoved coating layers produced from powder coatings.
3. Method according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that it is carried out in order to repair defective areas within stoving lacquer coatings applied to motor vehicles and parts thereof.
4. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that it is carried out in order to repair defective areas in external, visible, stoved clear lacquer layers.
5. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the defective areas are prepared for the repair lacquering, especially by grinding, milling, treatment of the defective areas with a laser, and/or cleaning.
6. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the irradiation is carried out using NIR radiation in the wavelength range from 760 to 1500 nm.
7. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that there are used NIR radiators which, in order to adapt to the defective area

to be repaired, are able to emit radiation over an area or focused along a line or at a point.

8. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, characterised in that the NIR irradiation is carried out in combination with conventional heat sources.

9. Method according to any one of claims 1 to 8, characterised in that it is carried out using a powder coating or an aqueous powder coating slurry having the same solids composition as the lacquer previously used to produce the stoving lacquer layer having defective areas that is to be repaired.